

TIMES JOURNAL POST

THE TWIGGS TIMES NEW ERA

THE COCHRAN JOURNAL

THE WILKINSON COUNTY POST

Vol. 25, No. 2

Vol. 118, No. 2

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Visitors to Carter Center pay one last Ga. visit before casket heads to D.C.

Stanley Dunlap
Georgia Recorder

Admirers of former President Jimmy Carter braved frigid temperatures Monday to pay respects to the late president before his six-day funeral procession moves to Washington.

Hundreds of people continued to flock to the Carter Presidential Center in Atlanta, open since Saturday evening, while Carter lies in repose within a casket draped with the American flag surrounded by a guard of honor provided by the military.

John Ploss, 93, visited the center on Monday to pay respects to a fellow graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. Following his graduation from the academy, Carter became a Navy pilot several classes before Ploss, who would also become a pilot.

The Ploss family members spent the weekend visiting the Carters' Habitat for Humanity project in Plains, before completing the trip Monday at the Carter center, said Ploss' son, Carl Ploss.

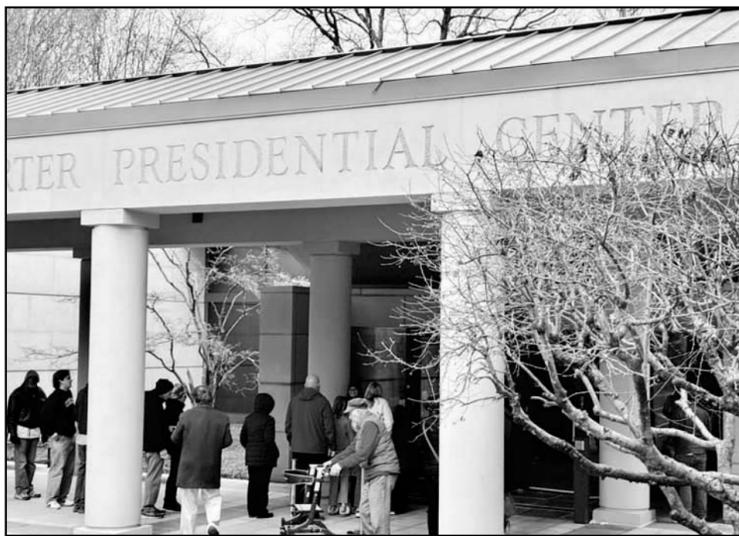
"We've been kind of tracking Jimmy's spiritual journey here, and this is the last step, obviously," Carl Ploss said. "But in a sense, it's not the last step, it's just the end of the physical journey. There's a lot that will continue."

Carter was in hospice care for nearly two years before he died last month in the Plains home he shared with former first lady Rosalynn Carter, who died in late 2023 at the age of 96.

Carter admirers toured the Atlanta center that is filled with memorabilia commemorating the life of the longest living president when he died Dec. 29 at the age of 100.

Atlanta's Chan and Stephanie Parker paid their respects to the late president on Monday, expressing their admiration for his humanitarian efforts and love of music.

The common thread connecting many of the visitors at Carter's last Georgia public viewing was their gratitude for



Stanley Dunlap/Georgia Recorder

Even a bitterly cold Monday, Jan. 6, did not stop a steady stream of visitors to Carter Presidential Center, where former President Jimmy Carter lies in repose ahead of his national funeral in Washington D.C.

the late ex-president's charitable and humanitarian contributions after he left the White House, including more than 30 years working to help Habitat for Humanity build more than 4,000 homes.

The Parkers said that their political views aligned with those espoused by Carter, a Democrat who the Parkers identified as a pillar of character.

"He's a truly great man, a truly great humanitarian, a good person and good president," Stephanie Parker said. "He loved music, and I love music. He was just a great person. I don't think we'll ever see anyone else" like him again.

The six-day state honors for Carter began on Saturday with a motorcade traversing southwest Georgia's countryside before arriving at the state Capitol in downtown Atlanta.

The funeral procession stopped along the way outside Carter's childhood farm in Archery, where National Park Service rangers rang the same bell a young Jimmy Carter did numerous times growing

up. A crowd of people held American flags during the funeral procession that passed through Plains' Main Street on Saturday.

Four Georgia governors and many other political luminaries from both sides of the political aisle paid their respects to Carter as the hearse carrying the late ex-president made a brief ceremonial stop Saturday in front of the state Capitol. The procession would make its way to the Carter Presidential Center for an evening memorial service followed by the start of public visitation.

Carter's remains began a journey 6 a.m. Tuesday to Washington, D.C., where he will lie in state in the Rotunda of the Capitol before Thursday's funeral service at the National Cathedral.

Then, Carter will return to Georgia, where his remains will be buried at his longtime home in Plains, next to his late wife of 77 years.

Carter's legacy extends well beyond his

See CARTER, page 5

Twiggs Academy, Happy Hollows approved to receive Promise Scholarship funds

Mary Helene Hall
Times Journal Post

Just before the end of 2024, the Georgia Student Finance Commission released the list of private schools that will be eligible to receive 2025-2026 tuition payments via the Promise Scholarship.

The Georgia Promise Scholarship Act was signed into law by Governor Brian Kemp on April 23, 2024. It will enable students who attend or plan to attend under-performing public schools in Georgia to receive public funds to go toward private school tuition, tutoring services and other qualified education expenses.

Within Twiggs and Wilkinson counties, two private schools were approved to receive tuition payments from the scholarship: Twiggs Academy in Jeffersonville and Happy Hollow Christian Academy in Irwinton. Twiggs Academy serves pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, and Happy Hollow has students in pre-kindergarten to 8th grade. Both are Christian-affiliated schools.

In addition to those two schools, 242 other private schools in Georgia were approved to receive Promise Scholarship funding. Approximately half of those schools have an explicit religious affiliation.

In order to receive approval from the state, private schools are required to be accredited by

a recognized accrediting agency (or be in the process of becoming accredited), be in operation for at least one school year and comply with existing state laws such as those that apply to private schools and federal anti-discrimination provisions.

Four local schools — Twiggs County Middle School, Twiggs County High School, Wilkinson County Elementary School and Wilkinson County Middle School — were determined by the Governor's Office of Student Achievement to be among the worst-performing 25% of Georgia public schools.

Because those schools were identified, any student within the attendance zone is eligible to apply for the scholarship, not just current students of the four schools. Students who will be entering kindergarten for the 2025-2026 academic year are also eligible.

Students who receive the scholarship will have \$6,500 per year to put toward tuition — both Twiggs Academy and Happy Hollow's tuition are under that amount, according to information on the schools' websites.

Once students have been accepted into the scholarship program, they will stay in it until they graduate high school, go back to a public school, turn 20 years old (for special education students, that age cap is instead 21) or move out of Georgia.

At 95, Jimmy Carter cut down trees he planted and harvested for wood to make a custom guitar

Ellen Eldridge
Georgia Public Broadcasting

Former President Jimmy Carter, who died Sunday at the age of 100, wanted to make a point about sustainability so, he planted an orchard of Empress (Paulownia) trees on his property in the 1990s.

These nonnative trees grow to full maturity in 25 to 30 years. So, as the lifelong musician and three-time Grammy Award winner accumulated Grammy Award nominations — including his 10th just this week when his audiobook Last Sundays in Plains: A Centennial Celebration was nominated in the category of Best Audio Book, Narration, and Storytelling Recording — he had one more musical thing in mind.

Carter planted Paulownia to promote a renewable lumber resource, especially considering the shortage

of traditional tonewoods used for stringed instruments.

At the age of 95, the peanut farmer turned world leader used a chainsaw to personally cut down a Paulownia tree that Carter and friend Todd Lundberg milled and sent to Jason Kostal, a world-class luthier with a seven-year-long waiting list for a custom-built guitar.

Kostal builds between 25 and 30 guitars a year and each one starts at about \$40,000, he said.

"They're lifelong players, performers and discerning collectors that have essentially done whatever they needed to do in life to be able to afford a custom-made guitar that is one-of-a-kind, and tailor-made to their needs, wants and desires," Kostal said of his customer base. This customer was exceptional.

President Carter asked different artisans to create things with Paulownia to showcase different ways to use it, with the intent of ultimately selling off the wood and continuing to provide to his community, Kostal said.

So, the project jumped the line and Kostal dedicated about four months to completing the acoustic

guitar, delivering it to the Carters' home in April 2020.

Kostal identifies himself first as a graduate of West Point Academy and an Army officer veteran who now runs his own shop as a luthier. His artistic approach with Carter's guitar involved paying homage to the President's military service as a Naval officer and submariner.

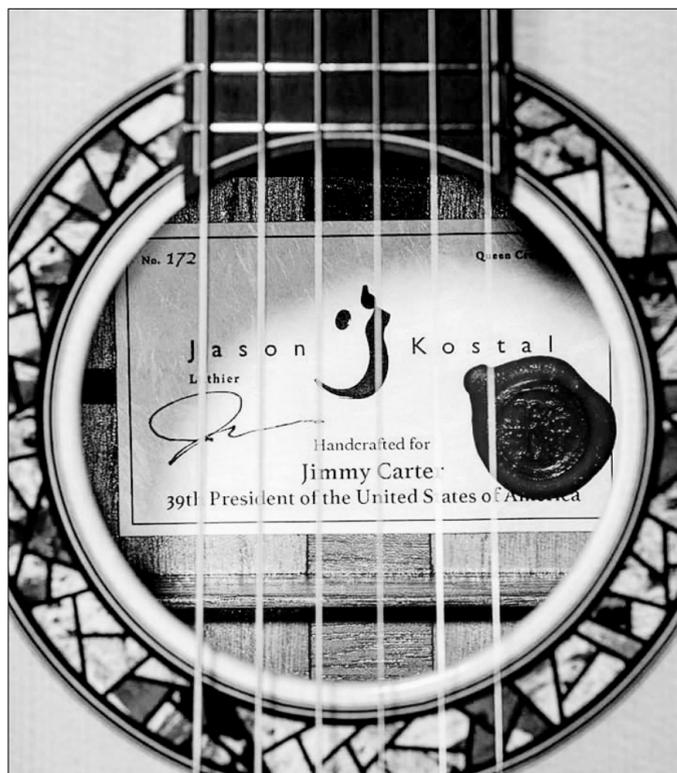
The blue and gold rosette represents the Navy colors.

"The case that it was delivered in is blue and gold," Kostal said. "I tried to just kind of pay tribute to that part of it because while I'm obviously very impressed and respectful of his time as president, I feel more of a connection to the military service."

While they served in different branches, the shared experience led to an instant camaraderie.

"For graduates of the Naval Academy and the U.S. Military Academy, there's one day a year where we just choose to not like each other that much — and that's for the Army vs. Navy game," Kostal said.

A decorative inlay on the back strip of the guitar is written in



Jason Kostal

The inside of the custom guitar made for Jimmy Carter. Guitar maker Jason Kostal's artistic approach with Carter's guitar involved paying homage to the President's military service as a Naval officer and submariner.

See GUITAR, page 5



Upcoming Events

High Risk Unified Commander Training

Thursday, Jan. 9 to Saturday, Jan. 11
146 E. Peacock St. in Cochran
Eight-hour command training designed to improve integration between law enforcement, fire and EMS responders during critical events. Training conducted by Central GA Regional Trauma Advisory Committee at Heartland EMS. Visit the trauma advisory committee on Facebook to learn how to register.

Cochran-Bleckley Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 14
8:30 a.m.
102 N Second St.

Cochran City Council Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 14
Work session at 6 p.m.
Regular meeting at 7 p.m.
112 West Dykes St.

Wilkinson County Commission Public Hearing

Tuesday, Jan. 14
5 p.m.
100 Bacon St.
A public hearing on the proposed fiscal year 2024-2025 budget for the county. The proposed budget will be available for public inspection in the Commissioner's Office during normal business hours beginning Monday Jan. 6 through Friday, Jan. 10.

Cybersecurity Workshop for Small Businesses

Wednesday, Jan. 15
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
MGA Macon Campus
Enrollment is limited to the first 12 individuals on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Randy Thompson, director of campus and community engagement at MGA at randy.thompson@mga.edu or 478-308-9028. Participants will be assisting in the development of the program through feedback after the workshop.

Twiggs County Commission Meeting

Thursday, Jan. 16
6 p.m.
Twiggs County Court House

Wilkinson County Commission Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 21
5 p.m.
100 Bacon St.
Conference call available at 978-990-5000 with access code 180826.

Cochran-Bleckley Chamber BINGO Night

Monday, Jan. 21
Doors open at 6 p.m.
Games begin 6:30 p.m.
165 Peacock St.
Compete in the Chamber of Commerce's monthly competition to win cash prizes sponsored by local businesses. Five cards are \$10, and all 10 games are \$20. Scott's BBQ sandwiches, chips, drinks and snacks will be available for purchase, including a \$7 meal deal.

Perry hosting semi-annual sidewalk sale

Owen Jones
Houston Home Journal

PERRY — On Jan. 11, the City of Perry will host a warehouse and sidewalk sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with hopes to help merchants clear out some of their inventory in preparation for the spring season.

"It's a really great opportunity for the businesses because they can hopefully clear out some merchandise by doing a sidewalk sale, then also a great opportunity for customers and shoppers to come get some really great deals post holidays," Downtown Manager Alicia Hartley said.

She also mentioned this sale will just be a sidewalk sale. The city did, however, do a warehouse sale a year and a half ago due to strong demand from the city's downtown businesses.

"We just want to make sure that if we host a warehouse sale that it's going to be beneficial for the customers that attend, so we're just doing a sidewalk sale moving forward," she said.

Most, if not all, downtown businesses will be participating in this sale. Hartley said some businesses have really big sales, while others have specific merchandise marked off in the store.

"It's a really good opportunity to kind of wander around and hunt for what you can find," she said.

Downtown Perry usually hosts the sales twice a year, but Hartley said if any merchants need an additional sale, they will promote and support it as best as they can.

"Usually, these [sales] are well-received from the merchants because then they have an opportunity for some new seasonal inventory," she said.

These sales bring more shoppers and foot traffic to downtown Perry, and Hartley shared that these sales can hopefully bring people who have never shopped in downtown Perry before.

The change of the seasons and doing what best fits the merchants' needs is one of the many reasons Perry has these sidewalk sales semi-annually.

"This sale is happening in early to mid January this time to move some of the winter and Christmas inventory out to make way for the spring inventory, and then we'll have another sale that we host in August of 2025 to move out that summer inventory to make way for the fall and winter," she said.

"It's strategically done to best serve the downtown businesses and support them in their retail efforts."



Shoppers enjoy a previous City of Perry sidewalk sale outside of Ashley Marie's Boutique.



Dan Chapman/USFWS, Public Domain

Lily pads at Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge. The swamp's supporters hope a planned expansion will help sink a proposed titanium mine.

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge expansion gains final approval

Dave Williams
Capitol Beat

ATLANTA — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) will move forward with a plan to expand the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge the swamp's supporters hope will help sink a proposed titanium mine, the federal agency announced Friday.

The planned expansion of about 22,000 acres got an enthusiastic reception during a 55-day public comment period. The agency received about 30,000 comments generally supportive of the proposal from all 50 states and 36 countries.

"The response received during the public comment period is a testament to just how special Okefenokee is, not just to our local community, but to people all over the nation and around the world," said Michael Lusk, the refuge's manager. "This minor expansion will help further conservation efforts for the swamp along with the threatened and endangered species that inhabit it."

Alabama-based Twin Pines Minerals (TPM) is seeking state permits to mine titanium dioxide on Trail Ridge, the Okefenokee's eastern hydrologic boundary.

While company executives have said the project would not harm the swamp, scientific studies have concluded the proposed mine would significantly damage the largest black-water swamp in North America by drawing down its water level and increasing the risk of drought and fires.

Josh Marks, president of Georgians for the Okefenokee, said expanding the refuge's boundary is a "critical development" in efforts to protect the Okefenokee from mining.

"As someone who fought DuPont's massive strip-mining proposal in the 1990s and helped add part of the DuPont property to

the refuge, I know firsthand the vital role that land acquisition has and must play in safeguarding this world-class resource," Marks said.

"The spotlight now shines even brighter on Gov. (Brian) Kemp, who should deny the permits for TPM's dangerous project along the swamp's southeastern edge, which will in turn incentivize TPM to follow DuPont's lead and donate or sell its property for conservation."

The Fish and Wildlife Service unveiled the planned expansion in October, which will allow the agency to negotiate with owners of the land who are willing to either sell their property to the federal government or establish a conservation easement.

Lewis Jones, a lawyer representing Twin Pines Minerals, wrote the Fish and Wildlife Service last month that it would not oppose the boundary expansion.

"We will take FWS at its word that its sole effect (is) to allow FWS to acquire property from willing sellers, that it will not have any effect on the permitting process ... and that FWS will not use the expanded boundary as a basis to assert control over private property it is unable to acquire," Jones wrote.

Expanding the boundary will allow the agency to potentially offer such priority public uses as hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, and education to the refuge's more than 400,000 annual visitors, boosting a growing ecotourism economy in southeastern Georgia.

Friday's announcement follows last month's announcement that the refuge will be nominated to join UNESCO's World Heritage List. If designated, the refuge would join more than 1,200 cultural and natural sites around the world, including the Grand Canyon and the Great Wall of China.

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NOTICE

The WILKINSON County Board of Commissioners does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at the (Wilkinson County Courthouse) on **January 14, 2025 at 5:00** and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

CURRENT 2024 PROPERTY TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

COUNTY WIDE		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
V A L U E	Real & Personal	374,255,165	398,961,047	405,440,662	429,836,242	453,109,470	560,153,605
	Motor Vehicles	9,315,520	7,654,240	6,238,620	5,870,360	5,670,540	5,415,810
	Mobile Homes	3,141,356	3,382,342	3,827,602	4,446,092	4,446,092	5,453,934
	Timber - 100%	6,311,529	7,084,880	6,617,871	3,327,919	7,980,733	3,151,429
	Heavy Duty Equipment	897,240	484,485	642,360	496,960	0	618,439
	Gross Digest	393,920,810	417,566,994	422,767,115	443,977,573	471,206,835	574,793,217
	Less Exemptions	58,371,191	57,321,032	56,435,637	54,545,209	53,866,499	89,602,613
NET DIGEST VALUE	335,549,619	360,245,962	366,331,478	389,432,364	417,340,336	485,190,604	
R A T E	Gross Maintenance & Operation Millage	15.7580	15.6880	15.6740	15.8560	15.7880	15.1550
	Less Rollback (Local Option Sales Tax)	1.3180	1.2480	1.2480	1.5040	1.4440	1.3690
	M&O MILLAGE RATE	14.4400	14.4400	14.4260	14.3520	14.3440	13.7860
T A X	M&O TAXES LEVIED	\$4,845,336	\$5,201,952	\$5,284,698	\$5,589,133	\$5,986,330	\$6,688,838
	Net Tax \$ Increase		\$356,615	\$82,746	\$304,435	\$397,196	\$702,508
	Net Tax % Increase		7.36%	1.59%	5.76%	7.11%	11.74%

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Georgia Southern announces Fall President's List

Georgia Southern University — Tristen Crosby of Danville — Hannah Hendrix of Danville — Ta'Lonie James of Jeffersonville — Kayla Odom of Danville — Caroline Weathersby of Dry Branch

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/R2 institution founded in 1906, offers approximately 155 different degree programs serving more than 26,100 students through 10

colleges on three campuses in Statesboro, Savannah, Hinesville and online instruction. A leader in higher education in southeast Georgia with expert faculty, the University is focused on public impact research and engaging learning opportunities through knowledge and know-how that prepare our students to take ownership of their lives, careers and communities.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WILKINSON COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing on the proposed FY 2024/2025 budget for Wilkinson County will be held on **Thursday, January 16, 2025** at 6:00 p.m. in Courtroom A of the Wilkinson County Courthouse, located at 100 Bacon Street, Irwinton, Georgia.

The proposed budget for FY 2024/2025 will be available for public inspection in the Commissioner's Office at 100 Bacon Street, Irwinton, Georgia during normal business hours beginning Monday January 6, 2025 through Friday January 10, 2025. Commissioners will vote on said budget at their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday January 21, 2025 at 5:00 pm.

PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING A PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners today announces its intentions to increase the 2024 property taxes it will levy this year by 4.22 percent over the rollback millage rate. While commissioners are not opting to take the full rollback rate of 13.227, they are lowering the current rate from 14.344 to 13.786.

Each year, the board of tax assessors is required to review the assessed value for property tax purposes of taxable property in the county. When the trend of prices on properties that have recently sold in the county indicate there has been an increase in the fair market value of any specific property, the board of tax assessors is required by law to re-determine the value of such property and adjust the assessment. This is called a reassessment.

When the total digest of taxable property is prepared, Georgia law requires a rollback millage rate be computed that will produce the same total revenue on the current year's digest that last year's millage rate would have produced had no reassessment occurred.

The budget tentatively adopted by the Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners requires a millage rate higher than the rollback millage rate; therefore, before the Wilkinson County Board of Commissions may finalize the tentative budget and set a final millage rate, Georgia law requires three public hearings to be held to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on the increase.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearings on this tax increase to be held at the Wilkinson County Courthouse in Courtroom A, 100 Bacon Street, Irwinton, GA 31042 on January 16, 2025 at 5:00 pm, January 20, 2025 at 6:00 pm, and January 21, 2025 at 5:00 pm.

NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners has tentatively adopted a 2024 millage rate which will require an increase in property tax by 4.22 percent.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on the tax increase to be held at the Wilkinson County Courthouse in Courtroom A located at 100 Bacon Street, Irwinton, GA 31042 on January 16, 2025 at 5:00 pm.

Times and places of additional public hearings on this tax increase are at the County Courthouse in Courtroom A located at 100 Bacon Street Irwinton, GA on January 20, 2025 at 6:00 pm and January 21, 2025 at 5:00 pm.

This tentative increase will result in a millage rate of 13.786 mills, a decrease of .5585 mills. Without this tentative increase, the millage rate will be no more than 13.227 mills. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of \$125,000.00 is approximately \$24.59 and the proposed tax increase for non-homestead property with a fair market value of \$100,000.00 is approximately \$20.36.

Obituary

Debbie C. Faulk

Debbie Cooper Faulk, 70, of Blythe, Ga., met her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025. She was born in Augusta, Ga., on December 15, 1954 to the late Marcus Cooper, her father, and Mrs. Dorothy Lucky Cooper, her mother. She married Joseph W. Faulk III on March 30, 1977 at Grace United Methodist Church in North Augusta. Together, they had two children, Joseph Walters Faulk IV, and Rebekah Faulk Lingenfelter.

Debbie was a dedicated educator for 24 years within the Georgia Department of Education, and teaching children was her life's passion. She loved the expression, "To teach others, we teach ourselves." During her career, she taught first through fifth grade in the Richmond County School System, and later became an assistant principal for Wheeler County Schools. She held various leadership

positions including as Professional Learning Coordinator for the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) Regional Educational Services Agency (RESA), and America's Choice school reform program. After retirement, she continued to tutor children through online learning, impacting students around the world.

Debbie earned her Associate of Arts degree from Middle Georgia College in Cochran, her Bachelor of Science degree from Georgia College, Milledgeville, and her Master of Education degree in Educational Leadership from Augusta State University (Augusta University). She was instrumental in the establishment of The Blythe Library, serving as chairwoman of the library board, a further demonstration of her lifelong commitment to literacy and reading. She volunteered often as a vacation bible school and Sunday school teacher at Blythe Baptist Church. She enjoyed traveling and cruising, and especially loved music from the 60's, 70's

and 80's decades. One of her favorite pastimes was visiting the St. Simons Island Antique Show. She loved her family with her whole heart. Debbie was a beloved wife, mother, daughter, grandmother and friend, and will be deeply missed.

She is survived by her mother, Mrs. Dorothy Lucky Cooper, her husband of 47 years, Joe, her son, Joey, his wife, Sarah, and three granddaughters, Lydia, Hannah, and Julia Hope, her daughter, Rebekah, her husband Kurt, as well as many beloved cousins. She is predeceased by her sister, Patty Charlene Cooper. Her memorial service will be held at New Richland Baptist Church, 9889 SR 96, Jeffersonville, Ga., 31044, on Saturday, Jan. 4, with visitation at 10 a.m. with the service to follow at 11 a.m.

Visit www.receefuneralhomeinc.com to express tributes.

Reece Funeral Home in Jeffersonville, GA has charge of arrangements.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO: RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF GORDON WHO ARE 60 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2025

Resident property owners of the City of Gordon who are 60 years of age or older prior to January 1, 2025, may be granted a homestead exemption on Ad Valorem Taxes on their residence in the amount of \$4000.00 for the year 2025.

The Act to grant the exemption was passed in August 1984. An affidavit must be filed, in person, by the owner of the homestead property, with the Clerk at the Gordon City Hall prior to the April 1, 2025 deadline for determination as to whether owner is entitled to an exemption for the year 2025.

Any person who filed an affidavit previously, does NOT have to file again, unless there has been a change in the ownership or resident requirement. You are required to report any such changes to the City Clerk.

Information on this act and filing of affidavits may be made during business hours at the Gordon City Hall, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Upon request, an affidavit will be mailed to you or it can be accessed through the city website: cityofgordonga.org.

Towana Brown
City Clerk
478-628-2222

JUST JERRI

Tradition

Although Christmas is in the past and New Year celebrations are but a memory, I'm still overwhelmed with all the decorations scattered everywhere that have to be collected, organized, and stored away.

Every year we go through this. I want to cut back on decorations and Charlie feels it's a tradition, arguing the grandchildren need to enjoy all the lights and other paraphernalia. I'm beginning to think he's related to Topol.

In the movie, *Fiddler on the Roof*, Topol, a poor Jewish peasant, dramatically waves his forefinger and sings, "Tradition". No matter what, we must have tradition!

One of the traditions we've always celebrated is the New Year's dinner of corned beef and cabbage. This tradition, handed down by Charlie's hill-billy relatives in West Virginia, is a lot of fun for the little ones.

According to tradition, the cabbage fairy (no relation to the Cabbage Patch dolls), leaves money in the cab-

bage. With a whole lot of fanfare, a candle is lit and everyone goes into another room while the fairy does her work. Finally, Charlie says it's time and we all go check to see if the candle is out, signaling that money's in the pot and it's time to eat.

Charlie scoops out the cabbage, making sure a generous amount of change is also scooped out on the individual plates. The child is told "if" they eat all their cabbage they can keep the money.

Whoever is brave enough to volunteer to do the dishes is allowed to keep all the money still left in the cabbage pot. (A great way to get them to do the dishes, I might add.)

A few years ago, we were truly celebrated out, and when our daughter Virginia asked if the cabbage fairy was coming, I responded, "Only if she's coming to your house and not mine!"

Being a good little trooper who loves tradition she put on quite a spread. As our granddaughter Amber filled her plate (everything BUT

cabbage) she said, "I'm so glad I have a real job now and don't need the money so I don't have to eat cabbage anymore!"

What a laugh that got from her Grandma. The little ones, however, were going back for seconds and I wondered who would wind up volunteering to do the dishes.

Traditions can be fun. I'm sure your household enjoyed a lot of family traditions during the holidays, especially when it came to your favorite holiday foods.

Tradition is one of those customs that are both good and bad. Jesus talked about tradition when speaking to a group of religious leaders. In Matthew 15 he accused the Pharisees of putting outward traditions above the true condition of the heart.

He said, "Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but

rules taught by men.'"

The Pharisees were worried about the proper way to wash one's hands. They were worried about what was going into the body, rather than what was coming out.

Later his disciples asked him to explain his remarks to the Pharisees "Are you so dull?" he asked. "Don't you see that nothing that enters a man from the outside can make him 'unclean'? For it doesn't go into his heart but into his stomach, and then out of his body." (Mark 7:18,19)

He went on: "What comes out of a man is what makes him 'unclean.' For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance, and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.'"



Jerri Tuck

There are even some today who are relying on their religious traditions to get them to heaven. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers, But with the precious blood

of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. (I Peter 1:18-19)

Are your traditions good or bad when it comes to your eternal state? Happy New Year!

Jerri Tuck is a regular columnist for the TJP. In each column, Jerri seeks to bring Biblical truths to light with the prayer that each article will bring "inspiration, information and illumination." Her books are available on Amazon in print and on Kindle.

NEW SOUTHERN DAD

Something wicked this way comes: A bit of toy history destroyed

There are estimated to be as many 14 million people with hoarding disorder in the United States. Or so says the internet.

That number seems a bit conflated to me, especially during this time of year when trash removal and cleaning companies are trying to take advantage of people's New Year's resolutions to de-clutter their houses. Everyone at least feels like a hoarder after Christmas, trying to find places to put away presents and get those decorations back into storage. Trash piles up easily due to discarded wrapping paper, boxes and the food waste from all the parties and family gatherings.

Hoarders often consider themselves to be collectors, viewing their excess belong-



Kyle Dominy

ings as treasure and giving it great personal value even if it is just a pile of rubbish. I consider myself a collector, but not in the hoarding sense (that's just what a hoarder would say). I have a few boxes of odds and ends – novels, cards, toys and comics – collected and saved over the years. There are no rare gems, just items with personal value because they were either gifted

to me or gave me some joy in my younger days (that's also what a hoarder would say).

Among the bric-a-brac are a couple of unopened toys. These objects worry my children to no end, especially my daughter. In their eyes, and it makes perfect sense, a toy can have no value if it is not opened and used. They have been instructed that they may open the toys upon my death, which I'm hoping comes well after their playing-with-toys days are over.

But this sentiment let a piece of toy history slip through our fingers over Christmas.

The release of a much-anticipated line of dolls, coinciding with the Broadway-smash-turned-box-office-hit *Wicked*, came with much controversy. The toys' packaging had a

misprint of the movie's website that instead of directing people to the feature film's site sent folks to a page with, let's just call it adult entertainment. The doll itself was fine and non-offending. Only people curious about the URL on the bottom of the box became aware of the problem.

The manufacturer issued an apology and recalled the toys, destroying the existing ones and reissuing them in new containers. The cat was out of the bag, though. Several of the dolls made it out into the public, including, thanks to my mother's early shopping, under the Christmas tree at my parents' house.

My little girl was thrilled to have a toy from the movie with the songs she'd been singing for weeks. After her

excitement was quelled by the next present, I scooped up the box, checked the website printed and, sure enough, it was one from the recall.

I told her she had a collector's item on her hands, and that she needed to keep it in the box. She spent time occupied with other gifts, but as the day went on, she wanted the doll. I tried to reason with her, even offering to replace it out of my own pocket, if she would only keep it sealed.

But what good is a toy left in the box? On Christmas day 2024, my daughter proved that she is not a collector.

You can reach Kyle Dominy at k.l.dominy@gmail.com or write to 115 S. Jefferson Street Dublin, Ga. 31021.

Letters to the Editor

As Trump shapes up his new administration, it is evident that the Golden Rule will apply.

(Them with the gold rule.)

Middle class and poor be aware that you will pay the bill!!

- John Ricks

To submit a letter to the editor, email news@timesjournalpost.com with your letter of no more than 200 words. Name, address, and contact info required. Content may be edited for clarity or length.

TROUBLE IN GOD'S COUNTRY

Carter's funeral and Trump's inaugural: Bookends to a troubled half-century

After nearly two years in hospice care at his home in Plains, Ga., Jimmy Carter finally passed away Sunday afternoon at the age of 100. His family had said a few months ago that the nation's 39th president was set on hanging on until he could cast his vote for Kamala Harris over Donald Trump. He achieved that last goal, albeit to no avail.

No doubt like many Americans, I had been wondering since the November 5 General Election how America could have gone from Carter to Trump in a mere half-century and, more important, what that metamorphosis says about us as a nation.

How could we have gone from a president who campaigned on a pledge never to lie to the American people (and who, nearly as I can recall or determine with a bit of research, kept that promise) to one who, according to *The Washington Post*, made

30,573 "false or misleading" statements during his four-year presidency?

From a presidential candidate whose public acknowledgment that he had "committed adultery in my heart many times" nearly upended his campaign to one who actually did commit adultery and bragged that he could "grab (women) by the p***y" and paid no political price for it?

From a president who vowed to do all he could to eliminate nuclear weapons from the face of the planet to one who, by multiple accounts, repeatedly harried the nation's military leaders about using them?

From a president who opened his inaugural address by thanking the man he had defeated "for all he has done to heal our land" to one who built his campaign on a false claim that his predecessor wasn't even born in the United States?

If Carter did indeed cling to life long enough to cast his



Charlie Hayslett

2024 presidential ballot for Vice President Harris, it's not a stretch to think he might have deliberately hung on just a little longer to make a final statement on the state of our politics – and to make a dramatic exit.

Few who knew Carter will have difficulty believing that. But whether by design or a twist of fate, Carter's state funeral will serve as a prelude to Trump's impending inauguration as the nation's 47th president. American flags will still be flying at half-staff to honor

Carter when Trump takes the oath of office on January 20th.

Carter left office a much-maligned figure. He had presided over an economy plagued by double-digit inflation and an Iranian hostage crisis that dominated national news for the final 444 days of his presidency. He was swept from office in a landslide loss to Ronald Reagan in 1980.

Carter, of course, is almost certainly better known to current generations for his post-presidential work. After losing to Reagan, Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter returned to their peanut farm in Sumter County and founded – instead of a traditional presidential library – the Carter Center in Atlanta.

The work of that organization is credited with all but eradicating Guinea worm disease in Africa and helping farmers in African countries

See HAYSLETT, page 8

TIMES JOURNAL POST

478-272-5522 | news@timesjournalpost.com

Published every Thursday by the Georgia Trust for Local News

DuBose Porter, Executive Director
Pam Burney, General Manager
Caleb Slinkard, Executive Editor
Mary Helene Hall, Editor
Christian McKearney, Staff Writer

The Official Legal Organ of
The Twiggs Times New Era
Jeffersonville, GA 31044 (USPS 014-592)
Periodicals postage paid at the Jeffersonville, GA Post Office and at additional mailing offices.

The Cochran Journal
Cochran, GA 31014 (USPS 120-340)
Periodicals postage paid at the Cochran, GA Post Office and at additional mailing offices.

The Wilkinson County Post
Irwinton, GA 31042 (022-564)
Periodicals postage paid at the Irwinton, GA Post Office and at additional mailing offices.

Subscription rates for one year:
In-county: \$31
Out-of-county: \$37
Senior in-county: \$29
Out-of-state: \$41

www.timesjournalpost.com

Guitar, from 1:

Morse code and it says, BEAT NAVY. "When the guitar was presented to President Carter, I explained that to him and he thought it was hilarious," Kostal said, but he quipped back that Navy had beaten

Army in the football game for a couple of years in a row at that time. "Interaction is something that's very special to us, and it was it was evident on his face that he was very happy to enjoy those moments," Kostal said. "So, it was really fun to be able to enjoy that

connection and that kind of witty moment with him." The Kostal model is part of the President Carter Legacy Collection, a unique collection of 12 stringed instruments created with the Paulownia wood grown by President Carter on his farm in Plains, Ga.



Jason Kostal

Former President Jimmy Carter plays his custom made Kostal guitar outside his home in Plains, Ga.

NOTICE TO QUALIFY FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF DANVILLE

EACH PERSON DESIRING TO QUALIFY FOR AN OFFICE (TERM JANUARY 1, 2026- DECEMBER 31, 2029) SHALL FILE NOTICE OF HIS/HER CANDIDANCY WITH THE
 Twiggs County Election Office
 425 Railroad Street Room 123
 Jeffersonville, GA 31044

BEGINNING AUGUST 18, 2025 AT 8:30 AM
 AND
 ENDING AUGUST 20, 2025 AT 4:30 PM

THE QUALIFYING FEE FOR MAYOR IS \$72.00 (ARTICLE 5-SEC. 21-390)
 THE QUALIFYING FEE FOR CITY COUNCIL IS \$36.00 (ARTICLE 5-SEC. 21-390)

ELECTION DATE IS NOVEMBER 4, 2025

LAST DAY A PERSON MAY REGISTER IF THEY ARE NOT REGISTERED AND BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION AND SPECIAL ELECTION
 O.C.G.A. S-21-2-224(a)
 IS OCTOBER 06, 2025

Macon man pleads guilty to robbing credit unions

Dave Williams
 Capitol Beat

ATLANTA – A Macon man has pleaded guilty in federal court to robbing two credit unions in 2022 and attempting to rob a third. Felix Cordes, 57, faces up to 25 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 after pleading guilty Thursday in U.S. District Court in Macon to using a firearm to rob the MidSouth Community Federal Credit Union in April 2022 and the Central Georgia Regional Credit Union the following month, stealing \$38,374. Both credit unions are located in Macon.

Cordes also admitted to a third robbery attempt at another MidSouth Community Federal Credit Union in May 22, which was unsuccessful.

The robberies caused employees of the credit unions to suffer panic attacks, U.S. Attorney Peter Leary said Friday.

"Bank tellers were terrified when Felix Cordes walked into their workplace and threatened them with a firearm, a scene he replayed again and then attempted a third time," Leary said. "His final act (was) thwarted by brave credit union employees who saw him coming with a gun and quickly locked down the bank."

"Felix Cordes was a ruthless and relentless criminal who possibly could have killed innocent bank employees had he not been stopped by the diligent work of investigators,"

Carter, from 1:

time in politics, when he served as a state senator and governor in Georgia. He ushered in an increase in the number of Black state government employees following the end of the Civil Rights Movement during the early 1970s.

A number of Carter's accomplishments during his presidency include diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China, relinquishing control of the Panama Canal and negotiating the Camp David Accords, a 1979 historic peace agreement between Egypt and Israel.

added Bibb County Sheriff David Davis. "We can be grateful that justice has been served and he will be held accountable for spreading mayhem in our community." A sentencing date will be determined by the court. Besides the prison time and fine, Cordes faces five years of supervised release following his prison term.

NOTICE									
The City of Ivey does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at the Ivey City Hall on January 13, 2024 at 5:30pm and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.									
CURRENT 2024 PROPERTY TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY									
C i t y o f I v e y	COUNTY WIDE		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
	V A L U E	Real & Personal		11,246,205	10,935,161	11,246,667	11,836,355	11,673,830	15,003,107
		Motor Vehicles		528,670	398,260	328,450	334,920	318,360	279,190
		Mobile Homes		167,095	203,123	240,894	262,336	262,336	398,738
		Timber - 100%							
		Heavy Duty Equipment							
		Gross Digest	11,941,970	11,536,544	11,816,011	12,433,611	12,254,526	15,681,035	
		Less Exemptions	579,289	568,404	601,297	474,453	549,947	647,678	
		NET DIGEST VALUE	11,362,681	10,968,140	11,214,714	11,959,158	11,704,579	15,033,357	
	R A T E	Gross Maintenance & Operation Millage		11.9740	11.4780	11.5350	12.6960	13.7230	14.7930
Less Rollback (Local Option Sales Tax)			6.5860	6.0900	6.1470	7.3860	5.2550	10.3520	
	NET M&O MILLAGE RATE		5.3880	5.3880	5.3880	5.3100	5.2550	4.4410	
	TOTAL M&O TAXES LEVIED		\$61,222	\$59,096	\$60,425	\$63,503	\$61,508	\$66,763	
T A X	Net Tax \$ Increase			(\$2,126)	\$1,329	\$3,078	(\$1,996)	\$5,256	
	Net Tax % Increase			-3.47%	2.25%	5.09%	-3.14%	8.54%	

NOTICE									
The City of Irwinton does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at the (Irwinton City Hall) on (January 24, 2025) at (4:00pm) and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.									
CURRENT 2024 PROPERTY TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY									
C i t y o f I r w i n t o n	COUNTY WIDE		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
	V A L U E	Real & Personal		7,487,167	7,463,939	7,449,398	8,221,984	8,230,751	11,879,447
		Motor Vehicles		322,380	271,670	248,390	187,070	183,280	179,110
		Mobile Homes		254,697	272,852	294,399	309,789	309,789	297,950
		Timber - 100%							
		Heavy Duty Equipment							
		Gross Digest	8,064,244	8,008,461	7,992,187	8,718,843	8,723,820	12,356,507	
		Less Exemptions	397,682	389,220	380,266	368,082	356,674	541,302	
		NET DIGEST VALUE	7,666,562	7,619,241	7,611,921	8,350,761	8,367,146	11,815,205	
	R A T E	Gross Maintenance & Operation Millage		9.9340	9.5150	9.6370	10.7150	11.0680	11.0690
Less Rollback (Local Option Sales Tax)			4.1240	3.7050	3.8270	4.9050	5.2560	6.7450	
	NET M&O MILLAGE RATE		5.8100	5.8100	5.8100	5.8100	5.8120	4.3240	
	TOTAL M&O TAXES LEVIED		\$44,543	\$44,268	\$44,225	\$48,518	\$48,630	\$51,089	
T A X	Net Tax \$ Increase			(\$275)	(\$43)	\$4,293	\$112	\$4	
	Net Tax % Increase			-0.62%	-0.10%	9.71%	0.23%	0.01%	

INTENT TO OPT OUT OF HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

The Twiggs County Board of Education intends to opt out of the statewide adjusted base year ad valorem homestead exemption for Twiggs County School District. All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on this matter to be held at the **Board Room, 952 Main Street, Jeffersonville, GA 31044, on January 10, 2025, at 6 PM.**

Times and places of additional public hearings on this matter are at the **Board Room, 952 Main Street, Jeffersonville, GA 31044, on January 24, 2025, at 6 PM and January 31, 2025, at 9 AM.**

These hearings will provide information about HB 581, explain the opt-out process, and gather community feedback.

Legals

Bleckley Co. Legals

C25-001
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 IN RE: ESTATE OF MARTIN D. LEE
 All creditors of the estate of Martin D. Lee, late of Bleckley County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment this 20th day of December, 2024 to Virginia Lee Snow c/o Attorney Tim J. Thompson, 1900B Northside Crossing, Macon, GA 31210, 478-471-9900.
 January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025

C25-003
This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, BLECKLEY COUNTY
 Under and by virtue of Power of Sale contained in Security Deed from David Jermaine Walker and Candice Slappy Walker to 21st Mortgage Corporation, dated October 24, 2019, filed for record October 28, 2019, recorded at Deed Book 436, Page 530, Bleckley County, Georgia Records, in the original principal amount of \$124,613.50., aforesaid records to secure the obligations of Grantor to Lender as set forth in a Promissory Note ("Note") of even date as amended, modified, or revised from time to time, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold, by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse Door at **BLECKLEY COUNTY**, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in **February 2025**, the following described property:
 All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 185 of the 21st Land District, Bleckley County, Georgia, and being known and designated as Parcel "I", comprising 3.000 acres, as is more particularly shown on a plat of survey prepared by Terry M. Scarborough, G.R.L.S. No. 2223, dated September 16, 2005, and recorded in Plat Cabinet B, Slide 89-4, Clerks Office, Bleckley Superior Court. Said Plat and the recorded copy thereof are hereby made a part of this description by reference thereto for all purposes.
Said legal description is controlling however, the property is commonly known as 132 Crane Road, Cochran, Georgia 31014.
Map and Parcel B37-013.
 The indebtedness secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed and Note, including, but not limited to, the nonpayment of the indebtedness as and when due. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees and other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed and Note.
 Said property will be sold subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: any zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by inspection of the property; any outstanding taxes, including but not limited to, ad valorem taxes, which constitute liens upon said property; special assessments; and all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute liens upon said property; To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is **David Jermaine Walker and Candice Slappy Walker** and /or tenant(s).
 The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the United States Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. 21ST Mortgage Corporation, and its counsel are acting as debt collectors. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION, as Attorney-in-Fact for David Jermaine Walker and Candice Slappy Walker.
 Contact: Jason Godwin
 Godwin Law Group
 3985 Steve Reynolds Blvd, Bldg D Norcross, GA 30093
 Phone: 470-427-2683
 Email: jgodwin@godwinlawgroup.com
 January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025

C25-005
 Take notice that:
 The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:
 ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 154, 21ST DISTRICT, BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 0.96 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING PARCEL 1, AND IS SHOWN ON A PLAT SURVEY RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 146, PAGE 53. SAID PLAT BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE THERETO. THIS IS THE SAME PROPERTY THAT IS MORE SPECIFICALLY DESCRIBED IN A DEED OF RECORD IN DEED BOOK 420, PAGE 398, BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA PUBLIC RECORDS.
 Current Map and Parcel No. B370 79 A will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 3rd day of February 2025.
 The tax deed to which this notice relates is dated the 7th day of November 2023 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Bleckley County, Georgia, in Deed Book 476 at page 27.
 The property may be redeemed at any time before the 3rd day of February 2025 by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address:
 212 Main Street
 PO BOX 4939
 Eastman, Georgia 31023
 Be governed accordingly.
 /s/ Ronald Edward Daniels
 January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025

C24-161
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 RE: ESTATE OF KATHY F. LEE, DECEASED
 All creditors of the Estate of Kathy F. Lee, deceased, late of Bleckley County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
 This 13th day of December, 2024.
 Doyle Ray Foskey, Executor
 133 Limestone Road E35
 Cochran, GA 31014
 December 26, 2024 January 2, 9, 16, 2025

C25-002
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF ROLAN LARRY SUMNER, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 2024P89

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
 David Rolan Sumner has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of ROLAN LARRY SUMNER, deceased, of Bleckley County. (The Petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before February 4, 2025.
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
 Jonathan R. Fordham
 Judge of the Probate Court
 Bleckley County Probate Court
 112 North Second Street
 Cochran, GA 31014
 478-934-3200 Ext. 4
 January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025

C24-158
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF BLECKLEY
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
 Pursuant to the power of sale contained in the Security Deed executed by ANGIL J. BONAWITZ AND KRISTEN HOWARD TO MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS MORTGAGEE, AS NOMINEE FOR AUSTIN CAPITAL BANK SSB in the original principal amount of \$125,435.00 dated August 9, 2019 and recorded in Deed Book 434, Page 594, Bleckley County records, said Security Deed being last transferred to PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC in Deed Book 468, Page 774, Bleckley County records, the undersigned will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse door in said County, or at such other place as lawfully designated, within the legal hours of sale, on February 04, 2025, the property in said Security Deed and described as follows: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 16 OF THE 21ST LAND DISTRICT, BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA, COMPRISING 1.39 ACRES AND BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS TRACT 1, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY OF RECORD IN PLAT CABINET B, SLIDE 141-9, CLERK'S OFFICE, BLECKLEY SUPERIOR COURT. SAID PLAT AND THE RECORDED COPY THEREOF ARE INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE FOR ALL PURPOSES.
 SUBJECT TO ALL EASEMENTS, ORDINANCES, COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY OF RECORD, IF ANY.
ADDRESS UNDER CURRENT SYSTEM OF NUMBERING: 832 GA. HWY. 112, COCHRAN, GEORGIA.
 Said property being known as: **832 GA HIGHWAY 112 COCHRAN, GA 31014**
 To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the party or parties in possession of said property is/are ANGIL J. BONAWITZ AND KRISTEN HOWARD or tenant(s).
 The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as provided for in the Note and said Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of sale, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).
 Said property will be sold subject to the following: (1) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not yet due and payable); (2) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; (3) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; and (4) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.
 Said sale will be conducted subject to the following: (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.
 The name, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage is as follows: Planet Home Lending, LLC
 321 Research Parkway, Suite 303
 Meriden, CT 06450
 1-855-884-2250
 Note that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the above individual or entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage.
THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC, as Attorney-in-Fact for ANGIL J. BONAWITZ AND KRISTEN HOWARD
 Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC
 13010 Morris Rd.
 Suite 450
 Alpharetta, GA 30004
 Phone: 470.321.7112
 Firm File No. 24-251383 - KaK
 December 19, 2024 January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025

C24-158
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF BLECKLEY
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
 Pursuant to the power of sale contained in the Security Deed executed by ANGIL J. BONAWITZ AND KRISTEN HOWARD TO MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS MORTGAGEE, AS NOMINEE FOR AUSTIN CAPITAL BANK SSB in the original principal amount of \$125,435.00 dated August 9, 2019 and recorded in Deed Book 434, Page 594, Bleckley County records, said Security Deed being last transferred to PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC in Deed Book 468, Page 774, Bleckley County records, the undersigned will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse door in said County, or at such other place as lawfully designated, within the legal hours of sale, on February 04, 2025, the property in said Security Deed and described as follows: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 16 OF THE 21ST LAND DISTRICT, BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA, COMPRISING 1.39 ACRES AND BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS TRACT 1, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY OF RECORD IN PLAT CABINET B, SLIDE 141-9, CLERK'S OFFICE, BLECKLEY SUPERIOR COURT. SAID PLAT AND THE RECORDED COPY THEREOF ARE INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE FOR ALL PURPOSES.
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ADDRESS UNDER CURRENT SYSTEM OF NUMBERING: 832 GA. HWY. 112, COCHRAN, GEORGIA.
 Said property being known as: **832 GA HIGHWAY 112 COCHRAN, GA 31014**
 To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the party or parties in possession of said property is/are ANGIL J. BONAWITZ AND KRISTEN HOWARD or tenant(s).
 The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as provided for in the Note and said Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of sale, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).
 Said property will be sold subject to the following: (1) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not yet due and payable); (2) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; (3) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; and (4) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.
 Said sale will be conducted subject to the following: (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.
 The name, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage is as follows: Planet Home Lending, LLC
 321 Research Parkway, Suite 303
 Meriden, CT 06450
 1-855-884-2250
 Note that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the above individual or entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage.
THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC, as Attorney-in-Fact for ANGIL J. BONAWITZ AND KRISTEN HOWARD
 Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC
 13010 Morris Rd.
 Suite 450
 Alpharetta, GA 30004
 Phone: 470.321.7112
 Firm File No. 24-251383 - KaK
 December 19, 2024 January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025

C24-160
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
JESSIE GILMORE, PLAINTIFF
V.
LINDREKA GILMORE, DEFENDANT
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO.
2024V-0175SFV
NOTICE OF SUMMONS-SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
 TO: Lindreka Gilmore, Defendant Named Above:
 You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE was filed against you in said court on October 18, 2024, and that by reason of a order for service of summons by publication entered by the court on December 10, 2024 you are hereby commanded and required to file with the clerk of said court and serve upon JESSIE GILMORE, plaintiff, whose address is 175 JOHNSON STREET, COCHRAN, GA 31014, an answer to the complaint within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
 Witness the Honorable Sarah F. Wall, Judge of said Court.
 This 10th day of December, 2024.
 /s/ Carol Evans
 Clerk of Superior Court
 Bleckley County
 December 19, 26, 2024 January 2, 9, 2025

C24-159
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF BLECKLEY
IN RE: ESTATE OF DONNIE RAY DIXON
 All creditors of the estate of Donnie Ray Dixon, deceased, late of Bleckley County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
 Teresa Dixon Daniels and Diane Carol Boutwell are the Co-Executors of the estate of Donnie Ray Dixon. D. Lee Peacock, Attorney at Law, 1719 Russell Pkwy., Bldg. 200, Warner Robins, GA 31088 (478) 922-3010
 December 19, 26, 2024 January 2, 9, 2025

C25-004
This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, BLECKLEY COUNTY
 Under and by virtue of Power of Sale contained in Deed to Secure Debt from **Frank Blackshear, as Trustee of the Blackshear Living Trust, UA**, to Irish Real Estate Guy, LLC, dated February 6, 2024, filed for record February 6, 2024, recorded at Deed Book 477, Page 282, Bleckley County, Georgia Records, in the original principal amount of \$50,500.00. Said Security Deed being given to secure the obligations of Grantor to Lender as set forth in a Promissory Note ("Note") of even date as amended, modified, or revised from time to time with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold, by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse Door at BLECKLEY COUNTY, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in February 2025, the following described property:
 The Land referred to herein below is situated in the County of Bleckley, State of Georgia, and is described as follows: That tract of land with dwelling house located thereon which has the address of 239 Ash Street, Cochran, Georgia 31014
 (Tax ID A16 128), in the City of Cochran in Land Lot 142 of the 21st Land District of Bleckley County, Georgia, as shown by plat of survey made by John W. Dye, Registered Land Surveyor, dated February 8, 1977, recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 395, in the Office of the Clerk of Bleckley County Superior Court at Cochran, Georgia, particularly described as follows: BEGIN AT A POINT marked by a stake on the northwest right of way line of Ash Street at its intersection with the southwest line of a fifteen foot alley or lane and from said point of beginning run north 43 degrees 40 minutes west 210 feet along the southwest line of said alley to a corner point; thence run south 45 degrees west 105 feet to a corner point marked by a stake; thence run south 43 degrees 40 minutes east 210 feet along the northeast line of lands now or formerly of Patricia A. Brown and Randy Levan Brown to a corner point marked by a stake on the northwest right of way line of Ash Street; and thence run north 45 degrees east 105 feet along the northwest right of way line of Ash Street to the point of beginning. The foregoing described tract of land is the same as that tract of land conveyed from FRANK L. BLACKSHEAR AS TRUSTEE OF 348 WEST 122nd STREET TRUST to FRANK BLACKSHEAR, AS TRUSTEE OF THE BLACKSHEAR LIVING TRUST, U/A dated July 22, 2021 by Warranty Deed dated December 29, 2023, recorded in Deed Book 476, Pages 534-535, Bleckley County Records.
Said legal description is controlling however, the property is commonly known as 239 Ash Street, Cochran, Georgia 31014.
PARCEL # A16 128
 The indebtedness secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed and Note, including, but not limited to, the nonpayment of the indebtedness as and when due. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees and other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed and Note.
 Said property will be sold subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: any zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by inspection of the property; any outstanding taxes, including but not limited to, ad valorem taxes, which constitute liens upon said property; special assessments; and all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute liens upon said property; To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property of Frank Blackshear, as Trustee of the Blackshear Living Trust, UA, and /or tenant(s).
 The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the United States Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Irish Real Estate Guy, LLC and its counsel are acting as debt collectors. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION as Attorney-in-Fact for Frank Blackshear, as Trustee of the Blackshear Living Trust, UA
 Contact: Jason Godwin
 Godwin Law Group
 3985 Steve Reynolds Blvd, Bldg D Norcross, GA 30093
 Phone: 470-427-2683
 Email: jgodwin@godwinlawgroup.com
 January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
 Gary Nobles, Jr.
 Judge of the Probate Court
 By: Diane H. Robinson
 Clerk of the Probate Court
 Twigg County Probate Court
 425 Railroad St. N. PO Box 186
 Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
 478-945-3390
 December 26, 2024 January 2, 9, 16, 2025

T24-094
MONTANA, RICHLAND COUNTY
NOTICE OF DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 All creditors of the Estate of Justin Ray Nefva, deceased, late of Twigg County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.
 This 3rd day of December, 2024.
 VALERIE K. ALLISON, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF JUSTIN RAY NEVA, DECEASED
 Valerie K. Allison
 35314 County Road 137
 Fairview, Montana 59221
 December 19, 26, 2024 January 2, 9, 2025

T24-096
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF SHAROL RENEA BLACKSHEAR, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-24-080
NOTICE PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATOR
TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Shalysia Meonta Blackshear, has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Sharol Renea Blackshear** deceased of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before January 20, 2025.
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
 Gary Nobles, Jr.
 Judge of the Probate Court
 By: Diane H. Robinson
 Clerk of the Probate Court
 Twigg County Probate Court
 425 Railroad St. N. PO Box 186
 Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
 478-945-3390
 December 26, 2024 January 2, 9, 16, 2025

T24-093
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
TWIGGS COUNTY, GEORGIA
 In RE: Estate of Charles F. Benton, Jr., deceased, late of Twigg County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
 This 4th day of December, 2024.
 Nicole Faye Comer, Executor
 Estate of Charles F. Benton, Jr.
 John D. Newberry
 Newberry & Newberry
 Attorneys at Law
 PO Box 844
 Gray, GA 31032
 478-986-5141
 December 19, 26, 2024 January 2, 9, 2025

T24-097
 Notice to Debtors and Creditors
 All creditors of the estate of Zeddie W. Dennard late of Twigg County, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
 This 18th day of December, 2024.
 Name: Stacey L. Ferris
 Title: Attorney for Administrator, Natasha Cindy Dennard-McDade
 Address: 331 N. Marietta Parkway, NE, Marietta, GA 30060
 December 26, 2024 January 2, 9, 16, 2025

T25-001
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MORRIS JASPER JONES, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-24-082
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATOR
TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Stephen Morris Jones, has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Morris Jasper Jones** deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
 Gary Nobles, Jr.
 Judge of the Probate Court
 By: Diane H. Robinson
 Clerk of the Probate Court
 Twigg County Probate Court
 425 Railroad St. N. PO Box 186
 Jeffersonville, GA 31044
 478-945-3390
 January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025

T24-095
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF JACQUELINE L. PHILLIPS, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-24-078
NOTICE PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATOR
TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Leroy Phillips, Jr., has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Jacqueline L. Phillips** deceased of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before January 20, 2025.

T24-095
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MORRIS JASPER JONES, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-24-082
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATOR
TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Stephen Morris Jones, has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Morris Jasper Jones** deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
 Gary Nobles, Jr.
 Judge of the Probate Court
 By: Diane H. Robinson
 Clerk of the Probate Court
 Twigg County Probate Court
 425 Railroad St. N. PO Box 186
 Jeffersonville, GA 31044
 478-945-3390
 January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025

T24-095
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MORRIS JASPER JONES, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-24-082
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATOR
TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Stephen Morris Jones, has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Morris Jasper Jones** deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
 Gary Nobles, Jr.
 Judge of the Probate Court
 By: Diane H. Robinson
 Clerk of the Probate Court
 Twigg County Probate Court
 425 Railroad St. N. PO Box 186
 Jeffersonville, GA 31044
 478-945-3390
 January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025

T24-095
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MORRIS JASPER JONES, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-24-082
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATOR
TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Stephen Morris Jones, has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Morris Jasper Jones** deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
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 425 Railroad St. N. PO Box 186
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 478-945-3390
 January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025

T24-095
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MORRIS JASPER JONES, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-24-082
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATOR
TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Stephen Morris Jones, has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Morris Jasper Jones** deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
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T24-095
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MORRIS JASPER JONES, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-24-082
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATOR
TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Stephen Morris Jones, has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Morris Jasper Jones** deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
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 Judge of the Probate Court
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 478-945-3390
 January 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025

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 Gary Nobles, Jr.
 Judge of the Probate Court
 By: Diane H. Robinson
 Clerk of the Probate Court
 Twigg County Probate Court
 425 Railroad St. N. PO Box 186
 Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
 478-945-3390
 December 26, 2024 January 2, 9, 16, 2025

T24-094
MONTANA, RICHLAND COUNTY
NOTICE OF DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
 All creditors of the Estate of Justin Ray Nefva, deceased, late of Twigg County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.
 This 3rd day of December, 2024.
 VALERIE K. ALLISON, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF JUSTIN RAY NEVA, DECEASED
 Valerie K. Allison
 35314 County Road 137
 Fairview, Montana 59221
 December 19, 26, 2024 January 2, 9, 2025

T24-096
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF SHAROL RENEA BLACKS

WEEKLY RECIPE



SPECIAL TO THE TIMES JOURNAL POST

Everyone knows there's no cure for the common cold. Though colds can strike at any time, cold season tends to occur when the weather cools down and people spend more time indoors. Inside viruses can circulate and spread more easily, thus leading to elevated rates of infection.

Though there might be no cure for the common cold, that does not mean people are helpless against it. Many people have their own remedies to help them manage and potentially shorten the duration of a cold, and chicken soup features prominently in those antidotes. Whether cold season is kicking into high gear or people are confronting the common cold at other times of year, they can incorporate this recipe for "Chicken Barley Soup with Vegetables" courtesy of Lines+Angles into their cold remedy routines.

Chicken Barley Soup with Vegetables
Makes 6 servings

Ingredients

- 8 cups chicken stock
- 4 cups water
- 1 tsp marjoram
- 1 tbsp fresh rosemary (chopped)
- 2 tbsp fresh parsley (chopped)
- 1 medium onion (sliced)
- 1 cup carrots (sliced)
- 2 cups cooked chicken (diced)
- 1 russet potato, peeled and cubed
- 1 cup broccoli (chopped)
- 1/2 cup barley
- Salt, to taste
- Pepper, to taste

Instructions

- In a large pot, combine chicken stock, water, marjoram, rosemary, and parsley. Simmer for 15 minutes.
- Add onion, carrots, cooked chicken, potato, broccoli, and barley. Add salt and pepper to taste. Simmer over low heat for 35 to 45 minutes, stirring occasionally. Serve.

DOG TRAINING WORD SEARCH

I R E I N F O R C E M E N T K V O E Z G
A H I N H I B I T I O N B Y T I I N Z E R
D A N X I E T Y P O S I T I V E F V Z R A
A N O I S S E R G G A F O C U S Z I B A E
P C O N D I T I O N I N G Z T B H R I E F
T R U U Q D Y Z T B E H A V I O R O Y F
A C E D I B E H A V I O R I S T N N M R C
T O I K D U V U M T R E N I A R T M U C
I L Z N C Z N B T S S E R T S I D E Z M Y
O L Y Z I I O L A R O U S A L B Q N Z Y
N A F L X M L Q F Q G F G Z N V F T I G E
E R D S X G I C K D D S F E U S Z L F E
D O M I N A N C E R M G N I K R A B U A
M U A Z S F V O H N Y A C Q U I R E B Q
P I T E D E S E N S I T I Z A T I O N C
Z U S A A T M O D I F I C A T I O N M A
T G D Q C Q Z X Q R H C M O H G R Z U H
C U M A U T K U O E E P L L Z H M T X P
D Y R P E H E N V O G T B G H F B S K L
V E Q Q F L P F U I Y K L M A N S I S A

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- ACQUIRE
- ADAPTATION
- AGGRESSION
- ALPHA
- ANXIETY
- AROUSAL
- BARKING
- BEHAVIOR
- BEHAVIORIST
- CLICKER
- COLLAR
- CONDITIONING
- DESENSITIZATION
- DISTRESS
- DOMINANCE
- ENVIRONMENT
- FEAR
- FOCUS
- INHIBITION
- LEAD
- MODIFICATION
- POSITIVE
- REINFORCEMENT
- TRAINER

GUESS WHO?

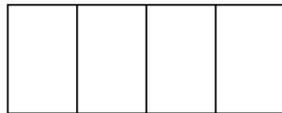
I am a member of the British royal family, born in England on January 9, 1982. I studied art history as a student, and I met my future husband at school. We dated for nine years before getting married in 2011. I am known for supporting a number of charities.

Answer: Catherine, Princess of Wales

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to dog training.

Y S T A



Answer: Stay

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to dog training. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 24 = A)

- A. 20 13 24 12 1
Clue: Controls pet
- B. 26 19 4 4 24 9 10
Clue: Give an order
- C. 12 24 7 13 25 2
Clue: Caution
- D. 19 3 13 2
Clue: Follow commands

Answers: A: leash B: command C: safety D: obey

Georgia STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS
Publish your classified ad in more than 60 Georgia newspapers for only \$350.
Call Georgia Newspaper Service: 770-454-6776
GNS
MEMBER OF THE GEORGIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

LOCAL MATTERS

We don't knowingly accept advertisements that discriminate, or intend to discriminate, on any illegal basis. Nor do we knowingly accept employment advertisements that are not bona-fide job offers. All real estate advertisements are subject to the fair housing act and we do not accept advertising that is in violation of the law. The law prohibits discrimination based on color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap or familial status.

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS FOR THE WEEK 1/5/25

CELLULAR

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-833-446-1847

HEALTH CARE

MEDICARE PLANS HAVE CHANGED!!! Make sure your plan will meet your needs in 2025. Our licensed agents can review the changes, address your needs and make sure you aren't overpaying! For a free quote, Call now! 1-866-307-5406

Don't let the stairs limit your mobility! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-877-871-3210

HEARING AIDS!! High-quality rechargeable, powerful Audien hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Tiny and NEARLY INVISIBLE! 45-day money back guarantee! 866-797-5642

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You

with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-844-592-3697

Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-855-391-2065

HOME IMPROVEMENT

ELECTRICAL SERVICES: Reliable & experienced. Competitive rates. From simple household problems to installing a brand new electrical system, we can take care of it all! Call now and have the zip code of the service location when you call! 1-877-551-4766

NEED NEW FLOORING? Call today schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-877-771-8882

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NOTICE

The City of Gordon does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at the Gordon City Hall located at 115 College St. on January 13, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

CURRENT 2024 PROPERTY TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

COUNTY WIDE		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
CITY OF GORDON	Real & Personal	49,067,784	58,000,581	62,723,200	65,268,730	65,349,192	80,429,428
	Motor Vehicles	2,190,590	1,841,250	1,429,490	1,390,810	853,600	1,128,330
	Mobile Homes	306,272	305,945	408,163	444,742	444,742	456,908
	Timber - 100%						
	Heavy Duty Equipment		484,485	62,360			383,948
	Gross Digest	51,564,646	60,632,261	64,623,213	67,104,282	66,647,534	82,398,614
	Less Exemptions	1,109,358	1,258,380	1,342,478	1,175,118	1,188,975	1,498,005
NET DIGEST VALUE	50,455,288	59,373,881	63,280,735	65,929,164	65,458,559	80,900,609	
RATE	Gross Maintenance & Operation Millage	13.1210	11.7570	12.2230	13.1710	12.9330	10.1990
	Less Rollback (Local Option Sales Tax)	5.6210	4.2570	4.1230	5.0710	5.0000	3.3340
	NET M&O MILLAGE RATE	7.5000	7.5000	8.1000	7.9210	7.9330	7.9330
TAX	TOTAL M&O TAXES LEVIED	\$378,415	\$445,304	\$512,574	\$522,225	\$519,283	\$641,785
	Net Tax \$ Increase		\$66,889	\$67,270	\$9,651	(\$2,942)	\$122,502
	Net Tax % Increase		17.68%	15.11%	1.88%	-0.56%	23.59%

Wilkinson boys stay rolling and get back over .500, Bleckley girls get key win but drop next game to Dodge

Micah Johnston
For the TJP

The Wilkinson County boys basketball team kept its bounce back campaign rolling last week, winning its first region game and a non-region contest on back-to-back days to get back over the .500 mark for the season.

The Warriors, who started off the season 0-3 despite expectations of a return to form this year following a disappointing 2023-24 season, have rebounded in a big way — no pun intended.

Wilkinson is now 7-5 after two crucial wins last weekend. The Warriors first defeated Hancock Central in their first region showdown of the year thus far, getting the victory in a tight 67-66 contest.

Hancock Central dropped to 4-7 after the loss.

The next win was not as much of a nailbiter, as Wilkinson County went on the road and claimed a 47-38 win over Wilcox County. The Patriots dropped to 2-7 overall on the year with the nine-point loss.

The two wins put Wilkinson in great position early. Although the close result against Hancock Central speaks to the difficulty of Region 5-A Division II, the group looks weaker this year — the Warriors are the only squad with a winning record so far in the young season. Four schools have two wins or fewer so far.

Wilkinson County, Twiggs County and Glascock County all won their region openers.

For Twiggs County, it was only their second win of the season, but an important one

nonetheless. It was a home victory over Johnson County Friday night that gave the Cobras their first win nearly a month, the last victory coming Dec. 5 against Trinity Christian.

Twiggs County, which has averaged about 45 points per game as a team, according to MaxPreps, managed 52 against Johnson County and held the Trojans to 50 in the region tilt.

The Cobras did lose their next game, a Saturday matchup the next day against A-Division I ACE in Macon, but the region games will be key down the stretch for Twiggs County.

Bleckley County, meanwhile, is already deep into its region schedule. The Royals went 1-1 in their two games after the winter break, losing 70-60 to ranked East Laurens in the Friday game before coming back with a blowout win Saturday against Dodge County, 62-41.

The win against the Indians put Bleckley County at 6-7 on the year and 3-3 in region play. It was payback for a loss to Dodge County earlier in the year, as the Royals avenged a 14-point defeat with a thorough 20-point drubbing.

Bleckley girls still ranked despite recent loss, Wilkinson searches for first win

The Bleckley county girls team is still ranked in multiple top 10 polls following a 1-1 start to the new year.

The Royals, now 8-3 overall and 4-2 in Region 2-A Division I play, defeated ranked East Laurens Friday before falling to Dodge county 49-45 Saturday to end the weekend. The Indians managed to keep things

close early before exploding in the second half, scoring 19 points in the third quarter and 16 more in the fourth to come away with the win.

The Sandy's Spiel statewide poll for Georgia's A-Division I classification has Bleckley County ranked No. 9 in the Week 9 table. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution also ranked the Royals No. 9 in its first poll of the new year.

The rankings make sense considering Dodge only defeated Bleckley by a slim four-point margin, and the Indians have appeared in the rankings themselves a few times so far this season. Meanwhile, the impressive East Laurens victory knocked the Falcons out of the poll and left them with a 5-4 record.

The Royals have a tough schedule ahead now, with a game against state title contender Central on the road followed by a showdown with Northeast and another tilt with East Laurens.

The Twiggs County and Wilkinson county girls teams have not fared as well.

The Twiggs girls, now 1-11, lost their eighth consecutive game last weekend, falling 57-15 to ACE on the road Saturday. The Cobras also lost to Johnson County 63-32 for their first region loss of the season Friday.

The Wilkinson girls are still in search of their first win after an 0-11 start most recently added to by a 45-15 loss against Wilcox County. The Warriors and Cobras meet for a game Friday night at Twiggs County.



Kristy Driggers / Wilkinson County High School

The Wilkinson County High School boys basketball team has faced off against Wilcox County twice this season: the first, pictured above, Dec. 14 and the second Jan. 4. The Warriors secured wins in both matches.

Ossoff, Warnock pick up new Senate committee assignments

Dave Williams
Capitol Beat

ATLANTA — Georgia's two U.S. senators have landed plum committee assignments as the 119th Congress prepares to convene on Friday.

Democrat Jon Ossoff will serve on the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee, which has jurisdiction over the federal budget.

"I look forward to serving on the Senate Appropriations Committee in the new Congress, where I will continue working across the aisle to deliver for Georgia," Ossoff said

Thursday.

Meanwhile, fellow Democrat Raphael Warnock has been appointed to the Senate Finance Committee, which handles federal tax and trade policies.

"I will be a guardian on the committee against any efforts to gut critical safety net programs like Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare ... against expensive tariffs that will hurt Georgians' pockets and bottom lines, and against any attempts to give massive tax cuts to the top 1% at the expense of working families and communities," Warnock

said.

Republican President-elect Donald Trump has said he will push to extend the tax cuts he steered through Congress in 2017 during his first term in office and impose heavy tariffs on imports from China, Mexico, and Canada. Trump will take the oath of office on Jan. 20.

Ossoff will continue serving on the Senate Intelligence and Rules committees, while Warnock will return to the Senate Agriculture and Banking committees.

Hayslett, from 4:

double and even triple their grain production. The Carter Center also provided election observation services in 26 countries around the world and focused on mental health issues, a passion of Mrs. Carter's.

The Carters continued their support for Habitat for Humanity, including participating in homebuilding projects into their 90s, and Carter himself went back to teaching Sunday school at the Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002 "for his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development".

Trump spent his four-year post-presidency dealing with criminal charges and civil lawsuits — and, of course, complaining that the 2020 election had been stolen from him. He also repeatedly proclaimed himself to be "the best" president in American history, with the possible exception of Abraham Lincoln.

Carter characterized his own presidency as "mediocre," but history may be kinder to him. A 2024 survey of 154 presidential historians and experts ranked Carter 22nd out of 45. Trump ranked 45th.

Carter's funeral and Trump's inaugural will stand as bookends to one of the most turbulent half-centuries in American history, and I will leave it to historians, philosophers and others smarter than I to sort it out and explain the evolution

from Carter to Trump.

I can't help but think, though, that tens of thousands of people will line the highways from Plains to Atlanta and then the streets in Washington, D.C., to bid Carter farewell, and that a comparable number will show up for Trump's inaugural just a few days later and a short distance away. I also can't help but think that the two crowds will be made up of very different groups of people.

Charles Hayslett is the author of the long-running troublein-godscountry.com blog. He is also the Scholar in Residence at the Center for Middle Georgia Studies at Middle Georgia State University. The views expressed in his columns are his own and are not necessarily those of the Center or the University.

Middle Georgia's Southern Bride 2025

Attention, newlyweds! Submissions are open for our 2025 Southern Bride magazine cover contest!

The winner will be on the 2025 Southern Bride magazine's cover and be featured inside. The runner-up will also be featured.

Any bride who got married in 2024 and is a resident of the Middle Georgia area is eligible to enter.

Submit a high-quality wedding photo, along with you and your partner's full names, address, wedding date, wedding location and venue, photographer's name, jeweler's name and contact information (phone number & email) to brianna@hhjonline.com.

Voting will start January 22nd on hhjonline.com and end January 30th. The winner will be announced January 31st.

Winners must be available for a phone interview between January 31st and February 5th.



Submission deadline: January 19th